THE CLAIMS ON FILE:

- 1. (Cancelled)
- 2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the pharmaceutical agent comprises a compound of formula (Ia):

wherein R⁹ is an alkyl group having 1-4 C atoms which, optionally, are substituted with halogen or replaced by halogen;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the pharmaceutical agent comprises a compound of formula (III):

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Cancelled)

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5. (Previously presented) A method for a chemotherapeutic treatment of a neuropathy characterized by application to a patient in need thereof of from 1-100 mg/day of a pharmaceutical agent comprising a compound of formula (I):

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in which

R¹=C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen,

R²=hydrogen or C₁₋₄alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen or replaced with

R³=C₂₋₄alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen,

 $R^4 = SO_2NR^5R^6$,

 $C_{1\text{--}4}$ alkyl, optionally substituted with NR 5 R 6 , CN, CONR 5 R 6 , CO $_2$ R 7 , or

halogen,

halogen,

C₂₋₄-alkenyl, optionally substituted with NR⁵R⁶, SONR⁵R⁶, CONR⁵R⁶, CO₂R⁷, or halogen,

 C_{2-4} -alkanoyl, optionally substituted with NR⁵R⁶, SONR⁵R⁶, CONR⁵R⁶, CO₂R⁷, or halogen,

 R^5 and R^6 , independent of one another, represent hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl, or, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, represent a pyrrolidino, piperidino, morpholino, 4-(NR⁸)-1-piperazinyl or 1-imidazolyl ring which, optionally, may be substituted with one or two C_{1-4} alkyl groups,

R⁷=hydrogen or C₁₋₄alkyl, optionally, substituted with fluorine, and R⁸=hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl, or hydroxy alkyl having 1-4 C atoms, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein the neuropathy is selected from the group consisting of a peripheral diabetic polyneuropathy, gastroparesis, a degenerative neuropathy, a toxic neuropathy, and a metabolic neuropathy.

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- 6. (Cancelled)
- 7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein from 5-50 mg/day of said pharmaceutical agent is administered to a patient being treated.
- 8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein from 25-50 mg/day of said pharmaceutical agent is administered to a patient being treated.
 - 9. (Cancelled)
 - 10. (Cancelled)
 - 11. (Cancelled)
 - 12. (Cancelled)
 - 13. (Cancelled)
 - 14. (Cancelled)
- 15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the neuropathy is selected from the group consisting of gastroparesis, a degenerative neuropathy, a toxic neuropathy, and a metabolic neuropathy.

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16. (Previously presented) A method for a chemotherapeutic treatment of a peripheral diabetic polyneuropathy consisting of application to a patient in need thereof from 1-100 mg/day of a pharmaceutical agent comprising a compound of formula (I):

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in which

R¹=C₁₋₆alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen,

R²=hydrogen or C₁₋₄alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen or replaced with

 $R^3=C_{2-4}$ alkyl, optionally substituted with halogen, $R^4=SO_2NR^5R^6$.

C₁₋₄alkyl, optionally substituted with NR⁵R⁶, CN, CONR⁵R⁶, CO₂R⁷, or

halogen,

halogen,

C₂₋₄-alkenyl, optionally substituted with NR⁵R⁶, SONR⁵R⁶, CONR⁵R⁶, CO₂R⁷, or halogen,

 C_{2-4} -alkanoyl, optionally substituted with NR⁵R⁶, SONR⁵R⁶, CONR⁵R⁶, CO₂R⁷, or halogen,

 R^5 and R^6 , independent of one another, represent hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl, or, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, represent a pyrrolidino, piperidino, morpholino, 4-(NR⁸)-1-piperazinyl or 1-imidazolyl ring which, optionally, may be substituted with one or two C_{1-4} alkyl groups,

R⁷=hydrogen or C₁₋₄alkyl, optionally, substituted with fluorine, and R⁸=hydrogen, C₁₋₃alkyl, or hydroxy alkyl having 1-4 C atoms, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.